GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:347
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Centre of Excellence for Cotton
Patel Smt. Jayshreeben

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Institute for Cotton Research in Nagpur and the All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project in Coimbatore of ICAR are providing only financial and technical support and conducting basic strategic applied research through Navsari Agriculture University and Junagadh Agriculture University and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these two institutes cannot serve as a Centre of Excellence for Cotton, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Gujarat, which is producing 30 per cent of the total production of cotton in India and generating rural employment is the right place for setting up of Centre of Excellence for Cotton;

(d) if so, whether a proposal forwarded to the Union Government for establishment of Centre of Excellence for Cotton in Gujarat in 2001 is still pending for Government's approval and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which and the location where this Centre is going to be established in Gujarat?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) ICAR- Central Institute for Cotton Research in Nagpur and All India Coordinated Cotton Research Project in Coimbatore of ICAR are providing financial and technical support to Navsari Agriculture University and Junagadh Agriculture University for conducting basic, strategic & applied research on cotton. Under different programmes a total of Rs. 667.29 lakhs and 316.41 lakhs financial assistance have been given for cotton research under XII five year plan to the Navsari Agriculture University, Navsari and Junagadh Agriculture University, Junagadh, respectively.

(b) ICAR-CICR, Nagpur, CICR Regional Station, Sirsa, and AICRP on Cotton, Coimbatore are doing excellent work to develop needful technologies for the countries in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities.

(c) Gujarat is a leading state in cotton production in the country. It needs strengthening; the establishment of a regional research station will meet the regional demand.
(d) & (e): For establishment of a regional research station for cotton in Gujarat budgetary provision is being made in the EFC of ICAR-CICR, Nagpur. It will be initiated in the campus of the ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh and the experimentation on cotton will start in the next crop season.
However, given the space limitation of ICAR-DGR, Junagadh, the State Government of Gujarat is being approached for about 50 ha of land at an appropriate site/cotton area for making the Centre fully functional.
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